

**Andrew Jackson to John Randolph, October 21, 1831,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

**TO JOHN RANDOLPH.**

Washington, October 21, 1831.

*Dear Sir,* In answer to your letter of the [18th] instant in relation to the state of your accounts, I have the pleasure to inclose you a letter from the Secretary of State containing the information requested.

You will perceive from that letter that it has been customary for the minister to vouch the contingent expenses incurred during the term of his service; and that after his term of service this obligation devolves on the officer having charge of the legation. The reason for this custom is so obvious that I am satisfied you would not allow its application to your accounts to be interrupted.

With the aid of the abstract from the books of the 5th Auditor which accompanies the letter of the Secretary and which is also inclosed herewith, I am in hopes that you will be able to state your accounts and vouch them in the usual form. When this is done the balance due to you can be remitted to you in a check on the state Bank at Richmond, or otherwise applied here according to your directions. If you will intimate your wishes on this subject to me, I shall take much pleasure in forwarding them.

Wishing you a speedy recovery of your health, and the enjoyment of every other blessing, I remain, my dear sir,

yr obt. and very respectful svt.

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[ *Indorsement:* ] Substance of a letter to Mr. Randolph on the subject of his accounts.